

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented patient clinical encounter information collection system, comprising:

a server, wherein the server comprises at least one database, and wherein the at least one database stores patient clinical encounter information;

a user interface, wherein the user interface comprises a plurality of fields, wherein at least a subset of the plurality of fields comprises a pop-up list, wherein the arrangement of the plurality of fields is fixed and the plurality of fields are arranged as on a clinical chart, wherein the user interface presents the plurality of fields in a single screen such that the user need not scroll the screen when entering data in the plurality of fields, wherein the user interface facilitates the entry, by a user, of patient clinical encounter information, wherein the user interface facilitates the selection, by a user, of at least a diagnosis, and wherein the user interface is stored on the server;

a client device, wherein the client device is communicatively coupled to the server, wherein the client device retrieves the user interface from the server, presents the user interface to the user, receives patient clinical encounter information from the user, and submits the patient clinical encounter information to the server, wherein the client device further comprises:

- a) a navigation module, wherein the ~~at least one~~ navigation module modifies the contents of at least a subset of the plurality of fields presented by the ~~at least one~~ user interface ~~module~~ in response to the diagnosis selected data entered by ~~into the user interface module~~; and
- b) a verification module, wherein the verification module ~~determines for~~ determining an authorization level for the diagnosis by referring to at least data in identified user interface fields fields, the verification module determining said authorization level prior to submission of the patient clinical encounter information record to a ~~the server-computer~~.

- ~~—at least one user interface module, wherein the at least one user interface module facilitates generation of an electronic record of a patient clinical encounter by presenting a user interface comprising a plurality of fields to a user and receiving data from the user via at least a first subset of the plurality of fields, wherein the plurality of fields are arranged as on a clinical chart, wherein at least a second subset of the plurality of fields comprises a list of values, wherein the electronic record is to be reviewed by a health care reviewing organization, and wherein the user interface module facilitates selection of at least a diagnosis;~~
2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said user interface ~~module~~ further facilitates selection of one or more criteria corresponding to the selected diagnosis, and wherein the one or more criteria are selected by the navigation module from a set of criteria stored in a criteria database and are presented to the user in one of the plurality of fields.
3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2 , wherein said authorization level is determined at least in part by the selected criteria.
4. (Canceled).
5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said verification module is coupled to a rule database, wherein the rule database retrieves stored ~~which stores~~ rules on from the server, ~~computer~~ and wherein the rule database is employed by the verification module in determining said authorization level.
6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 5, wherein the rule database stores at least two levels of rules, said levels comprising:
- a criteria level, the criteria level rules determining a criteria status by referring to data from the identified fields of said clinical record; and
- a diagnosis level, the diagnosis level rules determining a diagnosis authorization level by referring to the criteria status of associated criteria.
7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, ~~wherein: wherein the user interface module is implemented on a client computer, further comprising:~~

~~—a first computer database, housed on the server computer, wherein the first computer database is associated with a user interface module, wherein the first computer database stores forms and controls employed in the generation of the user interface, and wherein the user interface module causes the forms and controls to be presented in a format similar to a clinical chart;~~

~~at least a subset of the plurality of fields presented in the user interface are related in a hierarchical manner, and wherein the navigation module changes the content of at least a subset of the plurality of fields based on selections made therein by the user.~~

~~—a second computer database, housed on the server computer, wherein the second computer database is associated with the navigation module, and wherein the second computer database stores hierarchical information representing data selections available to a user; and,~~

~~—a third computer database, housed on the server computer, wherein the third computer database is associated with the verification module, wherein the third computer database stores criteria rules, and wherein the criteria rules are evaluated on the client computer to determine in real-time whether each data entry meets one or more criteria for determining an authorization level.~~

8. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating the submission of a clinical record for automated processing, comprising:

providing at least one selection interface, wherein the selection interface facilitates selection by a user of one of a plurality of predetermined clinical data types, values; the predetermined clinical data types values comprising data necessary for creating at least a record of the symptoms associated with a patient and a diagnosis;

receiving a selection from said selection interface; and

providing at least one data field in response to said selection, wherein the data field is a quantified data field associated with an objective criteria, and whereby said quantified data field facilitates automated processing of said clinical record.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of generating an electronic clinical record, for entering medical diagnosis-based data, comprising:

~~receiving a diagnosis from a user via a entering a diagnosis into a database user interface running on a client device; residing on a server computer;~~
~~entering permitting the user to select a criteria from a pre-defined list of criteria associated with the entered diagnosis, into the database residing on the server computer;~~ the criteria associated with a rule required for confirming the entered diagnosis, the criteria associated with at least one finding;
~~receiving from the user entering into the database residing on the server computer data corresponding to at least a subset of the at least one finding associated with the user selected entered criteria;~~
~~verifying that all necessary data associated with the diagnosis has been received from the user;~~
~~transmitting the data received from the user to a server; and~~
generating an electronic clinical record based on the data received from the user, entered data.

10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Currently Amended) An interface for entering data for evaluation of a clinical encounter, comprising: an interactive set of lists, wherein each of the lists in the interactive set of lists has its own domain, wherein each of the lists in the interactive set of lists is displayed as a separate pop-up button list, wherein at least a subset of the lists in the interactive set of lists are hierarchically related, and wherein the interactive set of lists is formatted to be similar to a clinical chart.
13. (Previously Presented) The interface of claim 12 further comprising a display area, wherein the display area displays a parameter and at least one corresponding finding by displaying each parameter proximate to the associated at least one finding .
14. (Previously Presented) The interface of claim 12 further comprising a data entry area, wherein the data entry area is adapted to facilitate entry of more than one finding for a parameter.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for processing patient clinical data by a health care organization, comprising:

establishing a server computer, wherein a plurality of forms facilitating the entry of patient clinical data in clinical chart form are stored on the server computer, wherein a first set of rules are stored on the server computer, the first set of rules facilitating the authorization of at least one diagnosis based on associated clinical patient encounter criteria, and wherein a second set of rules are stored on the server computer, the second set of rules facilitating the evaluation of clinical patient encounter data;

establishing a user site;

interconnecting the server computer and the user site;

retrieving from the server computer at least one of the plurality of forms for display and editing at the user site, the first set of rules and the second set of rules;

configuring at least a first subset of ~~the~~ forms to apply ~~a~~ the first set of rules to at least a first subset of inputs entered into the first subset of forms, ~~wherein the first set of rules authorizes at least one diagnosis based on associated clinical patient encounter criteria, wherein the first set of rules are applied at the user site;~~

configuring at least a second subset of ~~the~~ forms to apply ~~a~~ the second set of rules to at least a second subset of inputs entered into the second subset of forms, ~~wherein the second set of rules evaluates clinical patient encounter data, wherein the second set of rules are applied at the user site;~~

receiving patient clinical encounter data from at least one user interacting with the user site;
and

processing the received patient clinical encounter data automatically in accordance with the first and second set of rules.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the first set of rules and the second set of rules are applied when a user enters the information associated therewith into the user form, further comprising providing an indication to a user of the user site regarding an

~~authorization level for the entered data, wherein the indication is provided before the user submits the form.~~

18. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating the single screen submission of patient clinical data in a computer implemented patient care review system, comprising:
- providing a clinical element selection interface, the clinical element selection interface facilitating the selection of a clinical element, wherein the selectable clinical elements comprise at least one of history and exam;
 - providing a system/group selection interface, the system/group selection interface facilitating the selection of a system/group associated with the selected clinical element, and wherein the system/group interface is populated based on the selected clinical element; and
 - providing a parameter selection interface, the parameter selection interface facilitating the selection of a parameter associated with the selected system/group, and wherein the parameter selection interface is populated based on the selected system/group;
- wherein the element selection interface, the system/group selection interface, and the parameter selection interface are displayed within a single screen.
19. (Currently Amended) A method for providing an indication of appropriateness of a patient clinical encounter to a user of an electronic clinical charting system, wherein the electronic clinical charting system ~~that~~ facilitates the submission of diagnosis-relevant clinical data associated with the patient clinical encounter, comprising:
- providing a criteria selection interface on a client computing device, wherein the criteria selection interface allows the user to select a diagnosis-based criteria;
 - receiving diagnosis related data from the user;
 - applying a verification rule to the received data, wherein the verification rule is applied on by the client computing device; and
 - providing a verification result indication, the indication provided within each selected criterion in the criteria selection interface, and wherein the indication conveys each criterion authorization level.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein patient clinical encounter information is presented on a user computer with relevant clinical data in clinical format that is familiar to clinicians and healthcare reviewers.
21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein criteria guided ~~two-step~~ clinical data entry is done by users who are at least one of clinicians or clinician aids at the site of the patient encounter.
22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 wherein ~~two-step criteria guided clinical~~ entry of relevant clinical data is made in a screen display requiring no scrolling, and wherein the screen display expedites transformation of physical patient charts into electronic format for review by health care review organizations.
23. (Previously Presented) The interface of claim 12, wherein at least four pop-up button lists are displayed and include at least one of an Element pop-up button list, a System/Group pop-up button list, a Parameter pop-up button list, and a Finding pop-up button list.
24. (Currently Amended) The interface of claim 23, wherein the at least four pop-up button lists are hierarchically related, and wherein a selection in one pop-up list populates at least the next lower pop-up button list in the hierarchy.
25. (Currently Amended) The interface of claim 23, wherein
- a selection of an entry in ~~an~~ the Element pop-up button list populates a the System/Group pop-up button list with available entries.
 - a selection of an entry in the System/Group pop-up button list populates a the Parameter pop-up button list with available entries, ~~and~~
selection of an entry in the Parameter pop-up button list populates the Finding pop-up button list with available entries, and
 - a selection of an entry in a Finding pop-up button list either:
 - a) enters the selected Finding with the selected Parameter into a chart note data field in the ~~clinically~~ clinical chart formatted on-screen display; or

- b) prompts a user to enter a numeric value to be associated with the Finding, and wherein the Finding and its associated value, along with the selected Parameter, are entered into a chart note data field in the ~~clinically~~ clinical chart formatted on screen display.
26. (Previously Presented) The interface of claim 25, wherein a selection in a criteria pop-up button list populates the Element pop-up button list, System/Group pop-up button list, Parameter pop-up button list and Finding pop-up button list to enable the user to select the Finding.
27. (Currently Amended) The interface of claim 26, wherein only two steps are necessary to enter diagnosis-relevant clinical ~~data~~ data:
- a) a selection in the criteria pop-up list which either prompts selection of a finding from the Finding List, or
 - b) for a numerical finding, selects the finding and prompts for the numerical value.
28. (Currently Amended) The interface of claim 27, where similarly a selection in ~~the~~ an additional info pop up list sets the Element list, System/Group list, Parameter list and Finding list to enable the user to select the Finding.
29. (Currently Amended) An electronic clinical record creation and review system comprising:
- a user interface, wherein the user interface prompts for clinically relevant inputs which are used to generate an electronic record of a patient clinical encounter, wherein the clinically relevant inputs comprise a diagnosis and at least one patient symptom, wherein the at least one symptom is clinically relevant to the diagnosis, and wherein sufficient symptoms are prompted for to verify the diagnosis;
 - a communications interface, whereby the electronic clinical record is transmitted to a health care reviewing organization for review; and
 - a clinical data evaluation module, wherein the clinical data evaluation module automatically evaluates clinical data stored in the electronic clinical record for individual criteria and for the patient clinical encounter, wherein the review comprises at least a review of the diagnosis, ~~the clinical data comprising patient symptoms.~~
30. (New) The system of Claim 7, wherein the verification module further comprises a plurality of criteria rules, and wherein the criteria rules are evaluated by the verification module to

determine whether data entered by the user meets one or more criteria for determining an authorization level.

31. (New) The system of Claim 1, wherein the communicative coupling between the client and the server comprises an Internet connection.
32. (New) The method of Claim 8, wherein the selection interface and the at least one data field are provided via an HTML web page on the Internet.
33. (New) The method of Claim 9, wherein the data received from the user is transmitted to the server via the Internet.
34. (New) The method of Claim 15, wherein the server site and the user site are interconnected via the Internet.
35. (New) The method of Claim 19, wherein the criteria selection interface is obtained from a server, and wherein the server and the client computing device are interconnected via the Internet.
36. (New) The system of Claim 29, wherein the communications interface facilitates transmission of the clinical record to the health care reviewing organization via the Internet.